



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, DC 20361 -0001

IN REPLY REFER TO

NAVAIRINST 3700.2B
AIR-42C
3 Feb 86

NAVAIR INSTRUCTION 3700.2B

From: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: PILOT/AIRCREW CHECKOUT CRITERIA IN NEW MODEL PRODUCTION
AIRCRAFT FOR NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION AIRCRAFT REPORTING
CUSTODIANS

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3710.7L, Promulgation of NATOPS General
Flight and Operating Instructions
(b) WR-46, Weapons Requirements Preparation and Submission
of Pilot/Aircrew Checkout Procedures

1. Purpose. To establish and distribute procedures for pilot and aircrew checkout criteria in new model production aircraft that are assigned as research, development, test, and evaluation (RDT&E) aircraft under the controlling custody of the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR).

2. Cancellation. This instruction supersedes NAVAIR Instruction (R 3700.2A of 4 August 1975.

3. Definition. The term "new model production aircraft" includes variations in existing aircraft models that result in the assignment of a new design number or a modified mission symbol as well as a new aircraft model. Experimental aircraft procured for research purposes are specifically excluded.

4. Background. There is a considerable time lapse between first flight by Navy flight crews in a new model production aircraft and the availability of the Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization (NATOPS) Program Manual for the particular model aircraft. The complexity and cost of new aircraft dictate that timely action be taken to develop and publish interim pilot and aircrew checkout procedures for these aircraft.

5. Scope. This instruction applies to

a. all new model production aircraft for which NAVAIR is the controlling custodian, including RDT&E project aircraft, fleet support custody aircraft (new aircraft accepted by contract administration offices), aircraft assigned to non-naval organizations on bailment or loan, as well as preaccepted aircraft; and

b. all persons who pilot or fly in new model aircraft as crew members.

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6. Policy. It is NAVAIR policy that reporting custodians operating RDT&E aircraft comply with the spirit and intent of the NATOPS Program as set forth in reference (a). It is recognized, however, that the program as established cannot be fully implemented for new model production aircraft, and that certain provisions are not applicable in their entirety to all activities. Aviation safety is a command responsibility and the head of the activity which has been assigned reporting custodian responsibility for these aircraft will ensure that pilots and aircrews receive suitable checkouts in new model production aircraft. The checkout and refresher procedures established will conform with the intent of this instruction.

7. Responsibility. The Commander, Naval Air Test Center is responsible for establishing and distributing minimum pilot and aircrew checkout and refresher criteria for new model production aircraft to NAVAIR RDT&E aircraft reporting custodians.

8. Requirements

a. Information provided by this instruction is essential to safe pilot and aircrew checkout in new model production aircraft. Early aircraft of the same model usually have significant differences in major systems, so a thorough knowledge of the peculiarities of individual aircraft is mandatory. As a minimum, the following will be included:

(1) Use of pertinent aircraft publications and briefing checklists.

(2) Ground training requirements, including the use of the contractor's school, if appropriate, Naval Air Maintenance Training Detachment, operational flight trainer, or weapons systems trainer when available.

(3) Pilot and aircrew examinations.

(4) Minimum crew requirements.

(5) Aircraft preflight procedures.

(6) Aircraft emergency procedures.

(7) Flight training requirements.

b. These criteria will be utilized by all NAVAIR aircraft reporting custodians in establishing aircraft checkout procedures.

9. Action

a. Within 90 days after completion of the developmental R) tests phase IIA (DTIIA) of a particular model aircraft, the

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Naval Air Test Center (NAVAIRTESTCEN) will publish and distribute pilot and aircrew checkout criteria.

b. Reference (b) imposes a requirement on the airframe contractor to furnish data to NAVAIRTESTCEN upon which formal pilot and aircrew checkout criteria can be based for specific model aircraft. Such information is to be forwarded by the contractor at least 30 days prior to the beginning of DTIIA. Reference (b) (R) becomes mandatory, however, only when prescribed by contractual documents.

c. As an aircraft proceeds through its development program, increased experience or aircraft changes may dictate changes in the checkout criteria. Such changes will be published by NAVAIRTESTCEN.

d. The requirement for NAVAIRTESTCEN to furnish information under this instruction will terminate upon publication of the NATOPS Manual for the particular model aircraft.

e. Where ground trainers or simulators are available for a particular model aircraft, each reporting custodian is authorized to arrange directly with the activity exercising control over the trainer for its use, including special programs to meet particular needs.

f. Requests for factory training of personnel will be addressed to Commander, Naval Air Systems Command, Air Program Coordination Office, Aviation Training Systems (APC205). (R)


R. D. FRIICHTENICHT
Vice Commander

Distribution: (See next page)

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